Festival of India in USA and France

2800. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

HRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Governments were consulted in regard to the Festival of India Programmes in France aud the United States of America;

(b) whether the West Bengal Government was consulted in this regard, if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) the authority which draw up the -4ans and programme for fne said India Festival; and

(d) whether the similar procedure is expected to be followed in future also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Various State Governments and state institutions connected with th« performing arts which work in close consultation with the Sangeet Natak Akademi and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations were consulted in the matter of selecting artistes for the Festival of India in France and U.S.A.

(b) The West Bengal Government was informed about Festival of India Programmes and suggestions were invited.

(c) The Advisory Committee for the Festival of India.

(d) Procedures to be followed for sub sequent festivals will be determined as and when these are announced.

Leave encashment for Central Government Employees

2801. SHRI ADINANARAYANA REDDY:

SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to slate:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce leave encashment to the Central Government employees, and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when a final decision in the matter is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) A Central Government employee who seeks voluntary retirement or is prematurely retired by the Government is entitled to encashment of earned leave at his credit subject to a limit of 180 days and also in respect of all the half pay leave at credit provided the total period for which encashment is allowed does not take him beyond the date of superannuation. The encashment of half pay leave is subject to deduction of pension and pensionary benefits. Central Government servants retiring on attaining (he age of superannuation are also entitled to encashment of earned leave subject to a limit of 180 days. The Staff Side of the National Council (JCM) had also raised a demand for encashment of earned leave while in service to Central Government employees. This is still under discussion in the national Council.

Poor maintenance and facilities in the IT.D.C. Hotels

2802. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of maintenance and poor service occupancy rate in the I.T.D.C. hotels is very poor;

(b) what has been the occupancy rate im five star hotels of the I.T.D.C. during the last three years: and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to improve maintenance and other functions in these hotels to make them viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Information is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) ITDC has taken the following steps to improve maintenance and other facilities in its hotels:—

(i) By entering into marketing and reservation tie-ups with travel agencies abroad.

(ii) By participating in Travel Marts, Trade Fairs, etc. to promote ITDC properties.

(iii) Floating Special Package programmes for promoting domestic tourism.

(iv) Constitution of a High-Powered Committee for reviewing the performance of hotel's from time to time;

(v) Creation of a full-fledged Human-Resources Development Division to organise training courses, seminars etc. for improving the skills of the employees.

Statement

Occupany rate in Five Star Hotels of ITDC for the years 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85.

Name of the Hotel	Occupancy (%)		
	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1. Ashok, New Delhi	50	43	47
2. Ashok, Bangalore	50	50	36
3. Akbar, New Delhi	69	44	34
4. Kovalam, Ashok Beach Resort	42	40	43
5. Qutab, New Delhi	74	54	57
6. Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel, Mysore	44	39	47
7. Airport Ashok, Calcutta	53	50	54
8. Samrat, New Delhi	41	32	43

Foreign exchange utilised by the Tourist industry

2803. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
" MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the amount of foreign exchange utilised by the tourist industry both in public and private sectors during the year 1984-85?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):
The tourist industry involves multifarious activities and covers wide ranging sectors like hotels, restaurants, travel agencies, tour operators, transport, operators both in the public and the private sectors. The Department of Tourism releases foreign exchange only to the approved sectors of tourist industry under the Incentive Quota.